

# The Building America Partner Program

**A Program of the Home  
Builders Association of  
Central New Mexico**

**U.S. Department of Energy**

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**P r o g r a m   P a r t n e r**

## ***The Path to the Future***

*Building America* homes are designed and built to be better for the homeowner and the environment on many levels. When buying a new home, people assume that they are buying good indoor air quality and a safe, healthy environment. *Building America* homes are built with these important elements in mind to ensure that the homeowner is getting what he or she paid for. These homes provide several financial benefits as well. Mortgage companies acknowledge the value of a more advanced home and reward homeowners and builders for their participation. The opportunities are becoming greater every day!

# The Path to the Future

## **The Beginning of the Voyage**

The *Building America* Partner Program is committed to promoting the latest and most advanced technologies of residential construction. The program's success results from previous building and testing conducted in the Albuquerque Metro Area by the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) *Building America* Building Science Consortium.

The *Building America* Partner Program's mission is to work with the residential building industry to produce communities of homes that use 30% to 50% less energy than the average community of residences. In addition to reducing consumer energy bills, *Building America* helps home builders reduce construction time and waste by as much as 50%. By using a “systems engineering” approach to design and construct homes, *Building America* implements innovative energy- and material-saving technologies that save homeowners and builders millions of dollars in energy and construction costs, as well as provide a safe, comfortable environment in the home.

DOE developed five teams of builders, architects, scientists, and manufacturers who work together to research and implement full-scale systems engineering housing technology innovations. DOE funds the research and development of new technologies; the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) provides technical support; and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory coordinates R&D outreach and implementation support.

# U.S. Department of Energy

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## Program Partner

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The Home Builders Association of Central New Mexico has partnered with the Building Science Consortium to provide technical assistance to the local *Building America* Partner Program. These organizations also directly provide advice and expertise to the builders and their associates. This is, indeed, a team effort. With this type of support, the *Building America* Partner Program will set the standard for homebuilding in the 21st Century.

*Building America's* system engineering approach unites segments of the building industry that have traditionally worked independently of one another.

## *The Builder Path*

By partnering with the *Building America* Program, the Home Builders Association of Central New Mexico has combined some of the most important prescriptive methods of Green building with the systems engineering approach to designing and constructing a home. The result is one of the best building programs in the country.

## **Building Science Consortium**

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*Architecture and Building Science*

The *Building America* Partner Program is a comprehensive collaboration of five key building components, combined with performance-based construction and design techniques. Training and certification is required for builders and subcontractors to ensure that they are not only incorporating Green materials and practices, but that they are properly installing and building the home. With this attention to detail, the home is built with the best materials and ideas and will be much more efficient and Green than the average residence.

The *Building America* Partner Program is one of the most advanced and innovative builder programs in the country. The systems engineering approach to residential building involves cutting-edge technology and philosophy and makes Albuquerque a national leader in the home construction industry. We want you to be part of our team.

The 5 components of the *Building America* Partner Program:

- Energy Conservation
- Indoor Air Quality
- Water Conservation
- Material Conservation
- Solid Waste Reduction



The *Building America* Partner Program began in January 2001. It was built on the foundation of the Home Builders Association of Central New Mexico's Green Builder Program.

A *Building America* Partner Program home uses 30 to 50% less energy compared to other homes. The *Building America* Partner Program of Central New Mexico currently has 14 Registered Builders and 7 Registered Subcontractors, including 2 Mechanical Contractors, 3 Insulation Contractors, and 2 Designers. In addition, Certified Home Energy Raters are available in Albuquerque to conduct performance tests on homes to verify their quality.

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## **Program Partner**

The *Building America* Partner Program has had more than three training seminars for home builders in central New Mexico. These training seminars have enabled builders and subcontractors in the area to come and learn about the techniques and concepts that the *Building America* Partner Program recommends. More than 1,000 homes will be registered under the *Building America* Partner Program each year.



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